GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4417
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008
TRAINS AS SOFT TARGET
Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have become a soft target for terrorists, naxalites and other disruptive forces causing loss of innocent lives and loss of properties;

(b) the number of bomb blasts incidents taken place in the trains during the last three years and the number of persons killed therein;

(c) the steps taken by the Railways to strengthen and modernize security arrangements; and

(d) the number of vacancies in various ranks lying vacant in Railway Protection Special Force/ Railway Protection Force and steps taken to fill them?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI R. VELU)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The number of bomb blasts incidents took place in trains and number of persons killed in these incidents during the last three years i.e. 2005, 2006 and 2007 are as under:-

Years	Number of Bomb blasts reported	Number of persons killed
2005	01	09
2006	04	195
2007	08	73

(c): The following steps are being taken by the Railways to strengthen and modernize security arrangements :-

(1) 96 stations and 96 trains have been identified as model station/ trains and crime incidents in these stations and trains are monitored by the Security Directorate at Board's level.

(2) Four flying squads, headed by Deputy Inspector General ranks officers, have been consitituted for surprise checking of various trains/ stations and submitting report directly to the Director General/ Railway Protection Force.

(3) Intensive drive has been launched through pamphlets, skits and public announcements to sensitize passengers about modus-operandi of criminals specially Druggists (Jahar Khurani) and terrorists.

(4) Videography of passengers sitting in General Compartments is being done by RPF at the originating important stations.

(5) Modern security equipment like Close Circuit Television & Cameras, Bomb Detection & Disposal equipment, Bullet Proof Jackets and Bullet Proof Helmets, Walkie-Talkies, Hand Held Metal Detectors, Door Frame Metal Detectors etc. are being provided to the Force personnel.

(6) Dog Squad has been strengthened. Railway Protection Force has 182 Sniffer and 54 tracker dogs.

(7) 1450 important passenger trains are being escorted by the Railway Protection Force.

(8) 'RPF Mitra Yojna' a Community Policing Concept, has been launched which aims to strengthen contact and information network between Railway Protection Force and passengers.

(9) Intelligence network has been geared up with increased emphasis on close liaison with the Central and State Intelligence Agencies.

(10) 'Expression of Interest' has been invited on outright purchase basis or through Public Private Partnership (PPP) on BOOT (Build,

Own, Operate and Transfer) basis to develop 'Integrated Security System' over hundred Railway Stations of Indian Railways.

(d): Recruitment for filling up the 5937 vacancies of Constables in RPF/ RPSF has already been completed on all Railways excepting on Northern Railway. The recruitment for filling up 993 vacancies of Sub-Inspectors in RPF/RPSF is in the last stage of completion. As regards, filling up the 599 vacancies in Ancillary Cadre of RPF/RPSF, notification has been issued in March 2008.